



# VENTURING AT CREWSING ALTITUDE

THE NEWSLETTER FOR VENTURERS AND ADVISORS IN THE CENTRAL REGION

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## GETTING INVOLVED WITH THE COMMUNITY

Paul Lee, Regional President

Throughout all of Venturing, a heavy emphasis is placed on giving back to the community. Well, we all know simple ways of doing just that. For example, throwing your trash away in the proper receptacle or helping a young kid that lives in your neighborhood learn how to ride a bike are two ways of giving back. Within each of the advancement awards, there is a requirement of giving back to some group, whether it is a Boy Scout, Cub Scout, or Girl Scout unit, or some other youth group. But there are many more opportunities to serve. In the Venturing Oath, the last phrase states, "and to seek truth, fairness, and adventure in our world." To me, in order to fully live out that part of our oath while giving of ourselves to others through service means doing more than just the ordinary things. Holding car washes for sick children,



participating in an charity walk for organizations such as the American Heart Association are choice examples of "seeking adventure in our world". As Venturing young men and women, we are empowered to take our Oath and live it to the fullest. It is our responsibility to make this world a better place. Getting involved in the community will do just that.

Here are some places that will assist you in getting involved in the community:

[www.habitat.org](http://www.habitat.org)– Habitat for Humanity

[www.seconddharvest.org](http://www.seconddharvest.org)– America's Second Harvest Food Bank

[www.hsus.org](http://www.hsus.org)– The Humane Society of the United States

[www.pointsoflight.org](http://www.pointsoflight.org)– Points of Light Foundation and National Volunteer Center



If you would like to take pictures or write for the newsletter, send a note to [editor@crventuring.org](mailto:editor@crventuring.org)

## 2005 VENTURING MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS

<b>National</b>	<b>249,948</b>
Central	46,162
Northeast	35,512
Southern	68, 794
Western	99,480

(all numbers includes LDS units)

## LETTERS OF CONGRATULATIONS AVAILIABLE

Do you know of a Venturer who has earned one of Venturing's top awards? If so, I will write a letter of congratulations to that individual for earning the award (s). Just send me an email ([president@crventuring.org](mailto:president@crventuring.org)) with the person's name, a few things they have done and where you would like me to send the letter. These letters are written by me and they are printed on official Central Region, BSA letterhead.

**FUN AT THE HIGH ADVENTURE BASES!**

Have you ever been interested in learning more about one of the exciting BSA National High Adventure Bases, but couldn't find out any information? Well, here is a brief description of each of them, as well as their website so that you can get the latest information.



**Philmont Scout Ranch**

The Boy Scouts of America's premier high-adventure base challenges Scouts and Venturers with more than 200 square miles of rugged New Mexico wilderness. Backpacking treks, horseback cavalcades, and training and service programs offer young people many ways to experience this legendary country.

<http://www.scouting.org/philmont>

**Northern Tier**

The Northern Tier offers many adventures, each geared to the goals and desires of your group. Come to the Northern Tier for an unforgettable journey through the heart and soul of Canoe Country.

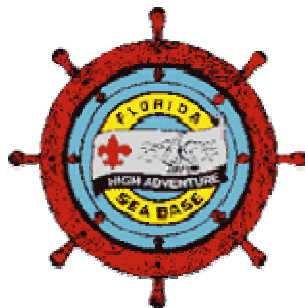
<http://www.ntier.org>



**Florida Sea Base**

The Florida National High Adventure Sea Base is headquartered in the heart of the fabulous Florida Keys. Scouting's most complete aquatic facility offers a complete variety of water activities from SCUBA diving to sailing "tall ships."

<http://www.bsaseabase.org/>



## SAJ- BSA FRIENDSHIP PROGRAMME

Dale and Ben Hayes- Delaware, Ohio



"The way is  
not in the  
sky, the  
way is in  
the heart." -  
Gautama  
Buddah

On February 28<sup>th</sup>, 41 scouts from across America met in Dallas, Texas to prepare for the opportunity of a lifetime. The scouts were selected to take part in an International Youth Forum. This forum was held in Narita, Japan and was attended by over 200 scouts from 25 different countries. While attending the forum the scouts discussed world issues. This forum was run by the scouts and for the scouts. At the end of the forum, a resolution was drafted by five elected scouts which was then presented to the Scout Association of Japan. This resolution told the ways in which the scouting program can help to give back to world.

After the forum we headed for Tokyo. The largest city in Japan hosts around 12 million people. While there we took the time to visit many Buddhist temples. This was a neat opportunity. We were able to not only learn about another religion but take part in some of the ceremony. We also enjoyed the opportunities to take photos with the local residents in their kimonos. This was a thing that the guys did more often than the girls.

We also visited Tokyo Tower, which is a smaller version of the Eiffel Tower. Some of the more daring scouts took the opportunity to go up the 600 foot observation platform. While up there the question was asked, why is there a door to the outside? We were later informed that this was used for repairing the tower.

Next we headed to the Emperor's Imperial Palace. We were able to experience the changing of the guard. The palace, unfortunately, is not the actual home of the emperor it is mainly used for government functions, but it is accessible to the public only twice a

year, once on the Emperor's birthday. It was neat to see a city of trees all around the palace. Everything else in the city of Tokyo seemed to be a skyscraper. The land is very costly so most people that live in Tokyo live in apartment or houses the size of an apartment.

We had the chance to ride on the bullet train to Kyoto. The scouts looked forward to riding the bullet train which can reach speeds over 120 miles per hour. While on the train we pasted the highest mountain in Japan, is Mt. Fuji. The mountain is of great importance to the Japanese scouts as the highest rank in their scouting program is named the Fuji Award. This would be like earning the rank of Eagle Scout to an American scout.

The train lead us to the city of Kyoto. Here we met up with our host families. We stayed with our host families for a total of three days. This gave us a chance to live the life of the every day Japanese people. Some scouts got the opportunity to go to the bathing houses while others went to Universal Studios. Some of the host families were able to speak English and others did not. All of the families offered the scouts a chance to try true Japanese food. The main reason for the visit to Japan was to have a cultural exchange. I believed we all achieved this. The people of Japan are the kindest people in the world. Any of the scouts who attended this trip would be willing to open their house to the scouts of Japan. This is a trip that will be remembered for the rest of our lives. I would like to thank the Government of Japan and the Boy Scouts of America for allowing us to have this opportunity. Without their help this trip would not have been possible for most scouts.

## WANTED: DEDICATED VENTURERS

# help wanted

We are looking for dedicated Venturers to serve on the CRTLC (Central Region Teen Leaders Council). We are specifically looking for someone to be the editor of the newsletter, webmaster of the website, and to assist with Venturing program development. These positions allow you to help the Venturing program, but won't take much of your time! The only requirements are that you are serious about helping, and that you are knowledgeable in the area that you want to work on. If you, or someone that you know are interested, please send an e-mail to Paul Lee, Regional President, at [president@crventuring.org](mailto:president@crventuring.org).



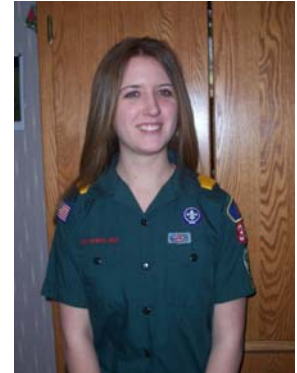
## AREA PRESIDENT SPOTLIGHTS

Karen Hager (Area 1) and Paul Starcher (Area 4)

Howdy ya'll, my name is Karen Hager and I am the Area 1 Venturing President. I am from Burnsville, Minnesota. I will be 18 in August. I currently attend BHS or Burnsville High School. Some activities I spend my time doing are; horseback riding, K9 Search and Rescue, piano, and softball.

I started out a Girl Scout back in the first grade and I was always the rebel scout that refused to do arts and crafts those were a long 9 years. Finally I was old enough to join Venture Crew. I am so thankful to have such a great opportunity to be involved with a great program such as this. Currently my crew is working on our Ranger Award, which is consuming a lot of our time. We are also going to be making a trip to Philmont in New Mexico, which I am very excited for. We will be doing the cavalcade, which means we will be riding horseback through the mountains. That is also taking a lot of planning and preparing for. In 2007 we are going to be going to Sea Base, which should be a whole lot of fun. Through Venturing I have been able to live my life to the fullest and experience things that most people can only dream about! I would have to say the best part of my Venturing experience would have to be anytime that I am with my crew. We always make each experience worth remembering. We have so much fun but yet we work hard as a team to get things done. So on behalf of Venturing Crew 390; HOOAH!

### KAREN HAGER



### PAUL STARCHER



Hi, my name is Paul Starcher; I'm the Area 4 Venturing President from the Ohio River Valley Council. I am 19 years old, and currently a freshman attending Bethany College in Bethany, WV majoring in International Relations. Recently, I attended the SAJ-BSA Friendship Programme and International Youth Forum in Japan, where I met Scouts, Venturers, and Rover from all over the Asia-Pacific Region of the World Organization of the Scout Movement.

Through scouting I have learned most of the skills that shaped my life today. I earned the rank of Eagle Scout in 2004 and Venturing Silver Award in 2006. Before leaving for Japan my council presented me with the Venturing Leadership Award. Through scouting I was able to go on many trips including Philmont, Northern Tier, NOAC, 2001 and 2005 National Scout Jamboree, Haliburton Scout Reserve (Scouts Canada), Hawaii, and Japan. Scouting has taken me many places in life and I will continue to stay devoted to the world's most elite youth program.

## YOU COULD HAVE THEIR JOBS?



Sounds too good to be true? Well it really isn't! All areas of the Central Region are seeking exciting Venturers to serve as Area Presidents! The information is all on the website, [www.crv venturing.org](http://www.crv venturing.org), or you could e-mail your area president for more information.

## CREW ADVENTURES

Crew 390

Every class B is different. They are all specially designed to symbolize your troop or crew. So when Venturing Crew 390 was trying to design their first class B shirts we considered how we could make ours different and special to us. We wanted it to stand out in a crowd. We figured red would be a good color since it is a bright vibrant color and white lettering would go well with red. Now the tricky part; what would the shirt say? The front would be easy and just have the Venturing logo. However the back of the shirt was to ours to exploit. We wanted a jersey style so we used 390 as our number but we wanted something to go where the last name would be. We considered nicknames and different sayings such as, "hooah", "let's roll", and "can you handle it?" We thought about what we wanted the shirt to represent. We just could not decide. That is when Skip Young jumped in with the story of "Let's Roll":

*"Are you guys ready? Let's roll!" That's how Todd Beamer lived. And that's how he died, helping to lead a takeover by passengers on United Airlines Flight 93, which crashed Tuesday in Somerset County. It was the fourth plane to go down during the terrorist attacks. Beamer, 32, told the GTE supervisor, Lisa D. Jefferson, that he and others on the plane had decided they would not be pawns in the hijackers' suicidal plot. Jefferson told him about the other hijackings and Beamer made her promise to call his wife and their two boys, David, 3, and Andrew, 1. Beamer's call connected at 9:45 a.m. He told Jefferson there were three hijackers, armed with knives. He did not know their nationalities or their intentions. One of the men had what appeared to be a bomb tied to his midsection with a red belt. He did not know the whereabouts of the pilot or copilot. He said a flight attendant had told him the pilot and copilot had been forced from the cockpit and may have been wounded. Two of the hijackers were in the cockpit with the door locked behind them. The man with the bomb stayed in the back of the plane, near Beamer's group. Beamer then told Jefferson that he and the others had decided to "jump on" the hijacker wearing the bomb. Jefferson could hear shouts and commotion and then Beamer asked her to pray with him. They recited the 23rd Psalm. He got Jefferson to promise that she would call his family, then dropped the phone, leaving the line open. That's when Jefferson heard what Lisa Beamer believes were her husband's last words: "Let's roll." Then there was silence. Jefferson hung up at 10 a.m. EST, realizing that the plane had gone down. Officials said it crashed at 9:58 a.m. Although it's not yet clear what Beamer and the others were able to do, they are being hailed as heroes for forcing the plane down in a remote strip mine area in Stoneycreek, Somerset County, about 80 miles southeast of Pittsburgh.*



We were won over! The story truly touched us and we wanted our shirt to represent something that meant a lot to us. With brothers, friends, and family serving overseas we felt that that saying would honor them as well as Beamer and everyone else who died that day. We will never forget what happened and we hope the saying "Let's Roll" will live on forever!

## AHOY SEA SCOUTS!

Suzanne Kissel, Central Region Sea Scout Boatswain



Are you interested in being our next Regional Sea Scout Boatswain? The time is approaching for my replacement to be selected. The Regional Boatswain is a member of the Central Region Teen Leader Council and reports to the Regional Commodore. The main job of Boatswain is to promote Sea Scouting to councils and community organizations throughout the Region. Through my service as Regional Boatswain, I have been given many opportunities to meet other Sea Scouts and to promote the program. If you are interested in this great opportunity, please contact Regional Commodore Tom Simiele at [simiele@wowway.com](mailto:simiele@wowway.com). Or if you have any questions you can contact me at [kissL1101@aol.com](mailto:kissL1101@aol.com).

## THE NATIONAL VENTURING YOUTH CABINET

The National Venturing Youth cabinet is comprised of six young men and women that together, guide the Venturing program throughout the country. These individuals are representatives of the four BSA regions of the country— Central, Northeast, Southern, and Western. The National Venturing Cabinet is dedicated to advancing the cause of the Venturing program. These youth leaders are the examples of the best that the program has to offer. The Regional Presidents and the National Boatswain are selected by their respective region/program. The National President is selected from the five outgoing cabinet members. All members serve a one-year term. To find out more, check out their website. The address is [www.nationalventuringcabinet.org](http://www.nationalventuringcabinet.org)!



Brian Casper  
Western Region President  
Prunedale, CA



Jess Rumburg  
Northeast Region President  
Syracuse, NY

Jesse Milton

National Sea Scout Boatswain  
Kingwood, WV



Amy DiFrancesco  
National President  
Sun Valley, ID



Paul Lee  
Central Region President  
St. Louis, MO



Maggie Belli  
Southern Region President  
Gastonia, NC



**We are on the web!**

[www.crventuring.org](http://www.crventuring.org)

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The Central Region is the administrative body that services 81 local BSA councils in the Great Midwest of the United States. The territory spanned by the Central Region includes council head-quarter cities in 13 states. As a whole these 81 councils touch the lives of over 1,000,000 youth registered in traditional BSA programs. Included in that figure are over 39,000 Venturers. The region works to assist these 81 councils as they build, support and sustain their programs. The objectives of the region in terms of Venturing are carried out using the methods of the Venturing program, youth leadership. Through the regional Venturing president, a youth, these goals and many more are carried out on a daily basis.

**GOING BOLDLY WHERE NO ONE HAS GONE BEFORE . . .**